

were in full plumage, with exception of two young birds and two males of *Paradisornis rudolphi*.

As regards the calls of the Paradise-birds, the different species can only be approached by a knowledge of them. The birds are seldom seen, unless followed in this way, with the exception of *P. raggiana* in the low elevations. This species has a succession of loud notes which dominate the forest. *Lophorhina superba* has a shorter cry, but very harsh. *Parotia seppennis* has a short sharp cry, which is almost exactly imitated by the natives, and it is thus easily approached. *Drepanornis albertisi* has several notes of a liquid quality, pleasant to hear. The cry of *Astrarchia stephanie* is a mere twittering. *Epimachus meyeri* has a loud deep cry, somewhat resembling the roll of a kettledrum. I have no distinct recollection of the call of the male *Paradisornis rudolphi*, but Anthony says that it resembles the note of a bell.

XX.—*On the Birds of the Alexandra District, North Territory of South Australia.* By COLLINGWOOD INGRAM, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

(Plate IX.)

ALTHOUGH many collections of birds have been made in various parts of Australia during recent years, I think that I am right in saying that hitherto no ornithologist has ever visited the immense tract of land owned by the proprietors of the Alexandra station. This estate lies in the Northern Territory of South Australia and is, roughly speaking, situated about two hundred miles inland from the Gulf of Carpentaria in lat. 19° S. and long. 136° E. (See map, Plate IX.)

In the year 1905 my father, Sir William Ingram, arranged that Mr. W. Stalker, an experienced naturalist, should visit this locality with the object of making an exhaustive collection of its birds and mammals—a task which has occupied him up to the present time. The mammals were presented

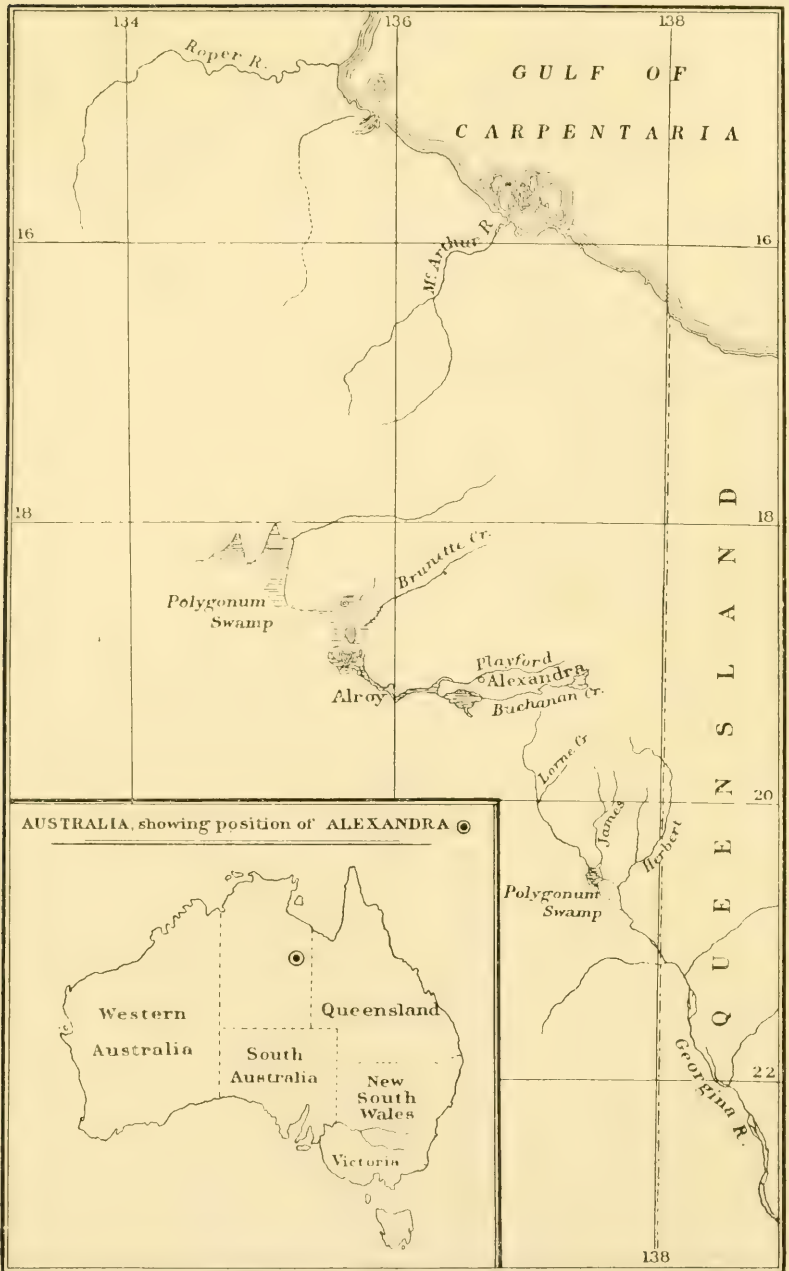
to the British Museum *, while the fine series of birds was handed over to me to work out.

In reviewing the collection in its entirety I was immediately struck by the exceptionally pale and grey coloration of many of the forms ; in several instances this was so manifest that I have deemed it necessary to separate five of them as distinct geographical races (see Bull. B. O. C. xvi. p. 115). The bleached appearance of their plumage is doubtless due to the arid-desert-character of the environment, for similar effects are well known to be produced in many vertebrates inhabiting the desert-regions of the world.

As might be expected from the similar nature of the two parts of the continent, examples from Alexandra most nearly resemble those from North-western Australia, and it is, to my mind, apparent that the avifaunas of these two districts are very intimately connected.

In answer to my request for a description of the neighbourhood, Mr. Stalker writes to me as follows :—" Leaving the Queensland border and travelling towards Alexandra, the principal river-beds crossed (see map, Plate IX.) are the James, Lorne Creek, Rankine, Buchanan, and Playford. In flood-time the first three empty themselves into the Georgina, but are, for the greater part of the year, merely a series of water-holes often many miles apart. The timber is principally Corlibar and *Gedzea*. Between the James and the Lorne Creek there is a sandy desert some sixteen to twenty miles in width covered with various Gums, *Mulga* timber, grass, and *Spinifex*. The Buchanan and Playford unite about twenty miles from Alexandra and, by means of a series of swamps, reach Lake Silvester. It is only in particular years, however, that the water extends so far: in 1905 and 1906 it did not reach the junction. Running parallel to the Buchanan, and distant about a mile and a half, is a ridge of desert sandstone (?) about a hundred or a hundred and fifty feet above the plain. The slopes and flats are, for an average width of three-quarters of a mile, covered with reddish sand, where several varieties

* See Mr. Oldfield Thomas's report on them, P. Z. S. 1906, p. 536.



SKETCH MAP
of the
ALEXANDRA DISTRICT
NORTHERN TERRITORY

of Gums grow amongst the *Spinifex*. Most of the timber found on Alexandra grows in the 'desert.'

"A ridge, similar to the former in many ways but rather higher and much more extensive, is found to the north of the Playford. This is much wider and possesses one spring of permanent water. Travelling towards this range from the creek, a plain is crossed for about five miles; then comes about a mile of brown sand-loam, set hard and covered with Box and other small trees; succeeding this is a stretch of perhaps a mile or two of Turpentine bushes growing in loose soft sand. Many gullies run down from the range and flood out over small plains. It is on this flooded ground that the only large timber is to be found—principally White Gum and Blood-wood.

"Most of the birds, excepting those found on water, were shot on the outskirts of these deserts and along the banks of the small creeks running through them. As, however, the water seldom lasts more than a week or two in the sand, though rather longer in a few rock-holes, there was not much time to work the whole country. The ranges seem to extend from the Playford in a broken series right up to the main coastal range. It is rather curious that after leaving the Rankine no *Gedyea*-trees are met with until the Brunette is approached, a distance of about a hundred miles.

"On the Brunette the plains are broken by ridges of small pebbles, heaped up like old sea-beaches. There are many large clumps of *Gedyea*-timber there, and I am told that similar country extends right out to the telegraph-lines.

"A few miles south of Alroy is the edge of the Great Desert. This extends from the Rankine at the Polygonum swamp right past Alroy, probably to Tennant's Creek, and is timbered with small White Gums, Turpentine, and a variety of low trees. There appear to be none of any size; probably the frequent fires have something to do with this. I visited two lakes twenty-eight and forty miles from Alroy respectively; they were shallow depressions covered with trees. The water-mark was about seven feet above our camping-ground and there might have been about one foot of water left. These also

seemed to be great breeding-places of water-fowl; there were many old nests amongst the branches of the trees; several species of Buzzards and the Kites were laying their eggs in May 1905 and even until August, but I saw no signs of any nest-building this year. A few small birds were found breeding during January on the flats of flooded country near the Playford, which had been particularly fortunate in the storms of rain which had fallen. The average rainfall here in twenty years works out at 16·50, but five of the winters only averaged 5·57, and this winter 6·54 at Alexandra, while it was much worse at Avon East and on the Brunette to the west.”

I now give a list of the species represented in Mr. Stalker's collection, with the necessary references and remarks when required.

GEOPELIA TRANQUILLA.

Geopelia tranquilla Gould, P. Z. S. 1844, p. 56 (Liverpool plains and banks of the Namoi, New South Wales); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 676 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 61 (Fitzroy River, N.W. Australia).

Geopelia placida Gould; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 196 (Margaret River; Eureka; South Alligator River).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Jan. 16, 1906. Iris dark red; feet reddish brown; bill black.

Compared with the series in the British Museum, the bird from Alexandra is distinctly smaller; its measurements are: wing 3·8, tail 4·2 in. The examples in the National Collection average: wing 4, tail 4·75.

GEOPELIA CUNEATA.

Geopelia cuneata (Lath.); Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxi. p. 462 (1893: N.W. Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 678 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 196.

a, b, c. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 29, 1905. Bill black; feet reddish cream-coloured; iris red. “Colocucu.”

d, e. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 8, 1905.

PHAPS CHALCOPTEA.

Phaps chalcoptera (Lath.); Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus.

xxi. p. 526 (1893 : Port Essington); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 680 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 197. No. 14. *a, b, c.* ♂ adult. Alexandra.

HISTRIOPHAPS HISTRIONICA.

Columba (Peristera) histrionica Gould, P. Z. S. 1840, p. 114 (plains of interior of Australia).

Histriophaps histrionica Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 684 (1901).

a, b. Adult. Alexandra.

LOPHOPHAPS LEUCOGASTER.

Lophophaps leucogaster Gould, Suppl. B. Austr. pl. 69 (1862); Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxi. p. 535 (1893 : Victoria River, N.W. Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 693 (1901).

No. 52. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill and feet black; iris orange.

OCYPHAPS LOPHOTES.

Columba lophotes Temm. Pl. Col. iv. pl. 142 (1823 : mountains of the interior of Australia).

Ocyphaps lophotes Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 695 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 61 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 198 (Mount Hatley; Soda Springs; Margaret River; Elvira River; Avergne Station).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Sept. 23, 1905. Iris orange; feet dark; bill black.

MICROTRIBONYX VENTRALIS.

Gallinula ventralis Gould, P. Z. S. 1836, p. 85 (Swan River, Australia).

Microtribonyx ventralis Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxiii. p. 165 (1894); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 752 (1901).

No. 97. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 5, 1905. Bill light blue, scarlet at base; tarsi and feet scarlet and grass-green; iris golden yellow. This species feeds on green grass-shoots.

PODICIPES NOVÆ-HOLLANDIÆ.

Podicipes novæ hollandiæ Grant, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvi. p. 519 (1898: Port Essington and Mount Anderson); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 1002 (1901).

Colymbus fluviatilis novæ hollandiæ Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 199 (Lyon River; South Alligator River).

No. 16. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill black above, grey below; feet dark grey.

STERNA GRACILIS.

Sterna gracilis Gould, P. Z. S. 1845, p. 76.

Sterna dougalli Mont.; Saunders, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxv. p. 70 (1896); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 834 (1901).

Sterna dougalli gracilis Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 199 (Bedout Island, N.W. Australia).

No. 102. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 9, 1905. Bill dark red; feet scarlet.

This specimen has puzzled me considerably and it is only with hesitation, while awaiting further evidence, that I name it, after Gould, *Sterna gracilis*. It appears to be nearly adult, but is unusually small, the measurements being: culmen 1·3, wing 8·3, tarsus ·8 in. The tail is probably undeveloped, being very short indeed and only bluntly forked. The most striking difference is in the small bill, which, even in its present dried state, may be seen to be wholly of a dark red colour (as Mr. Stalker also observes on the label), and not black or partly black as in the typical bird. Another important difference is shown in the primary-feathers; these are certainly not completely margined with white on their inner webs and, by the fourth and fifth, the light patch on the inner side becomes almost obsolete, being only apparent at the base of the feather.

Should this example prove to be *S. gracilis*, it is most surprising to find it so many miles inland, for, as Mr. Saunders points out, this group of Terns is essentially maritime. Mr. Stalker notes that this form is reputed to breed on the Brunette Creek.

ERYTHROGONYS CINCTUS.

Erythrogonyx cinctus Gould, P. Z. S. 1837, p. 155 (New South Wales); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 780 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 64 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 200 (South Alligator River).

a. ♀ adult. Buff Hole, Alexandra, May 1905. Bill—tip and culminal ridge black, mandible orange at the base; feet black; iris orange.

b. Adult. Alexandra.

OCHTHODROMUS VEREDUS.

Ochthodromus veredus (Gould); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 791 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 65 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 201 (South Alligator River).

No. 94. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 1905. Bill black; feet reddish brown.

ÆGIALITIS MELANOPS.

Ægialitis melanops (Vieill.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxiv. p. 300 (1896: Derby, N.W. Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 795 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 201 (South Alligator River).

No. 20. a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill orange at the base, black at the tip; feet dark yellowish brown; iris brown.

No. 20. b, c, d. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 11, 1905.

HIMANTOPUS LEUCOCEPHALUS.

Himantopus leucocephalus Gould; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 801 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 65 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 201 (South Alligator River).

No. 105. a, b. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Jan. 2, 1905. Bill black; feet pink; iris dark red.

RECURVIROSTRA NOVÆ-HOLLANDIÆ.

Recurvirostra novæhollandiæ Vieill.; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 804 (1901).

No. 2. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

STILTIA ISABELLA.

Stiltia isabella (Vicill.) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 769 (1901) ; Hall, Emu, ii. p. 64 (Fitzroy River) ; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 202 (South Alligator River).

No. 96. *a, b.* ♂ ; *c, d.* ♀ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 5-10, 1905. Bill scarlet and black ; feet dark brown ; iris brown.

GLAREOLA ORIENTALIS.

Glareola orientalis Leach ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 771 (1901) ; Hall, Emu, ii. p. 64 (Fitzroy River).

No. 95. *a.* ♂ ; *b, c.* ♀ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 8-15, 1905. Bill black ; feet dark brown ; iris dark brown.

BURHINUS GRALLARIUS.

Burhinus grallarius (Lath.) ; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxiv. p. 18 (1896) ; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 202 (Shaw River ; Union ; South Alligator River).

Burhinus (*Ædicnemus*) *grallarius* Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 766 (1901).

No. 89. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 7, 1905. Feet dirty yellow ; bill black.

PLATIBIS FLAVIPES.

Platibis flavipes (Gould) ; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvi. p. 51 (1898) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 948 (1901).

a. ♀ adult. Buff Hole, Alexandra, July 1905. Feet pale yellow ; iris white.

HERODIAS TIMORIENSIS.

Herodias timoriensis (Cuv.) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 952 (1901).

Herodias alba timoriensis Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 204 (South Alligator River).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 16, 1905. Bill light orange ; feet black.

NOTOPHOYX PACIFICA.

Notophoyx pacifica (Lath.) ; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvi. p. 111 (1898) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii.

p. 955 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 67 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 204 (South Alligator River).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 27, 1905. Bill and feet black.

DENDROCYCNA EYTONI.

Dendrocygna eytoni (Eyton); Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvii. p. 165 (1895: Port Essington); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 1028 (1901).

No. 67. *a, b.* ♀ adult. Alroy, Alexandra, Aug. 1905. Bill blue, crossed by a band of brick-red; feet reddish brown; iris golden orange.

No. 67. *c.* ♂ adult. Playford, Alexandra, Sept. 1905. Bill dark blue, reddish brown below, blue at the tip; feet light brown; iris orange.

ANAS SUPERCILIOSA.

Anas superciliosa Gm.; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 1033 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 206 (South Alligator River; Mary River; Nullagine Road).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

NETTIUM GIBBERIFRONS.

Nettium gibberifrons S. Müll.; Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvii. p. 254, pl. ii. fig. 2 (1895); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 1039 (1901).

Anas gibberifrons, Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 206.

No. 13. ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

MALACORHYNCHUS MEMBRANACEUS.

Malacorhynchus membranaceus (Lath.); Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvii. p. 319 (1895); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 1046 (1901).

a, b. Adult. Alexandra.

ÆTHYIA AUSTRALIS.

Nyroca australis Gould, MSS.; Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvii. p. 350 (1895); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 1050 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 206.

No. 51. ♂ adult. Alexandra, July 9, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris white.

PHALACROCORAX SULCIROSTRIS.

Phalacrocorax sulcirostris (Brandt); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 972 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 68 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 206 (South Alligator River).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill black to brown; feet black.

No. 68. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Sept. 1905. Bill and feet black.

PHALACROCORAX HYPOLEUCUS.

Phalacrocorax hypoleucus (Brandt); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 975 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 206 (South Alligator River).

No. 66. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Aug. 1905. Bill creamy white; feet black.

PLOTUS NOVÆ-HOLLANDIÆ.

Plotus novæ hollandiæ Gould; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 979 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 206 (South Alligator River; Nullagine Road).

No. 13. ♀ imm. Alexandra, Oct. 15, 1905. Bill bluish grey above, yellowish grey below; feet creamy yellow; iris pale yellow.

CIRCUS ASSIMILIS.

Circus assimilis Jard. & Selby, Illustr. Orn. pl. 51 (1828: the neighbourhood of Sydney); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 63 (1874); Campbell, Nest & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 1 (1901).

No. 50. ♂ adult. Alexandra.

No. 65. ♀ imm. Alroy, Alexandra, Aug. 1905. Bill black; feet yellow; iris lemon-yellow.

ASTUR FASCIATUS.

Astur fasciatus Vig. & Horsf. Trans. Linn. Soc. xv. p. 181 (1826: Australia); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 207 (South Alligator River).

Astur approximans Vig. & Horsf. : Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 6 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 63 (Fitzroy River).

a. ♂ adult. Buff Hole, Alexandra, May 1905. Bill black; claws jet-black; iris golden yellow.

Three lizards and a Java Sparrow were found in the stomach.

ACCIPITER CIRRHOCEPHALUS.

Accipiter cirrhocephalus (Vicill.) ; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 141 (1874: Victoria River, N. Australia) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 9 (1901) ; Hall, Emu, ii. p. 63 (Fitzroy River) ; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 208 (Brock's Creek ; South Alligator River).

a. ♂ adult. Alroy, Alexandra, Aug. 1, 1905. Bill black; feet orange; iris lemon-coloured.

UROAËTUS AUDAX.

Uroaëtus audax (Lath.) ; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 231 (1874) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 11 (1901).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, June 15, 1905. Bill greyish blue at the tip; feet dirty white; iris golden brown.

b. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 26, 1905. Bill yellowish blue; iris yellow.

HALIASTUR SPHENURUS.

Haliastur sphenurus (Vicill.) ; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 316 (1874: Port Essington) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 20 (1901) ; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 208 (South Alligator River).

a, b. ♀ pull. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill black; feet yellow; iris brown.

c. ♀ imm. Buff Hole, July 1905. Bill slate-brown; feet white; iris hazel-brown.

d, e. ♂ imm. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill iron-grey; feet olive-white; iris dark brown.

Egg. No. 6. April 26.

Egg. No. 10. July 20.

Eggs. Nos. 1, 3, 7. (These eggs have no dates.)

MILVUS AFFINIS.

Milvus affinis Gould; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 324 (1874: N.W. Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 22 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 63 (Fitzroy River).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill and feet black.

b. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 19, 1905. Feet yellow; iris brown.

c. ♀ adult. Alexandra. Jan. 8, 1906.

Eggs. Nos. 4, 5, 11.

GYPOICTINIA MELANOSTERNUM.

Gypoictinia melanosterna (Gould); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 335 (1874); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 25 (1901).

No. 72. a-d. ♂ adult and nestlings. Alexandra, Sept. 1905. Bill bluish grey; feet grey, claws blue; iris orange to pale yellow.

e. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 1, 1905. Bill blue above, yellow below; feet dirty white; iris hazel.

The two newly-hatched nestlings of this species accompanying the male example killed at Alexandra in Sept. 1905 prove that the birds were breeding there at that period. As this Kite is a rare species, only found in the interior of the continent, it is probable that the nestlings have not previously been described. They are uniformly covered with loose, buff-coloured down, which shades into very dark sooty-brown on the rump and round the eyes, the lores being almost black.

ELANUS AXILLARIS.

Elanus axillaris (Lath.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 338 (1874: Port Albany); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 27 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 208 (South Alligator River).

No. 56. ♀ adult. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill black; feet pale yellow; iris lemon-yellow.

HIERACIDEA ORIENTALIS.

Hieracidea orientalis (Schl.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 422 (1874).

Ieracidea orientalis Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 209 (South Alligator River).

The four examples of this genus from Alexandra differ considerably from each other. One is the typical brown *H. orientalis*; two undoubtedly belong to the rufous form known as *H. berigora*; while the fourth appears to be intermediate between them, being strongly inclined to rufous above but having the brown thighs of *H. orientalis*. This supports Dr. Hartert's supposition that the two phases belong to the same species, and that they are not separate geographical races (Nov. Zool. vol. xii. p. 209). Elsey also found the two phases inhabiting the same area. Mr. Stalker observes that this Hawk generally feeds on lizards.

No. 19. ♂. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill pale to dark blue; feet bluish white; iris brown.

No. 63. ♂. Alexandra, July 30, 1905. Bill and feet blue; iris golden brown.

HIERACIDEA BERIGORA.

Hieracidea berigora (Vig. & Horsf.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 41 (1874).

Ieracidea berigora Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 208 (Nullagine; Argyle Station; Condon Road).

No. 51. ♂ adult. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill bluish, shading to black at the tip; feet pale yellow; iris bright yellow.

CERCHNEIS CENCHROIDES.

Cerchneis cenchroides (Vig. & Horsf.); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 38 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 209 (Eureka River).

No. 55. ♂ adult. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill bluish at the base, black at the tip; feet bright yellow; iris brown.

a. Adult. Alexandra.

NINOX OCELLATA.

Ninox ocellata (Hombr. & Jacq.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. ii. p. 170 (1875: Port Essington; N.W. Australia).

Ninox boobook Hall, Emu, ii. p. 63 (Fitzroy River).

Ninox boobook ocellata Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 45 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 210.

a, b. Adult. Alexandra.

c. ♂ adult. Alexandra, April 1905. Bill black; feet dirty brown; iris brown.

STRIX DELICATULA.

Strix flammea delicatula Gould; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 51 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 211.

No. 9. Adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill dirty white; feet white; iris pale grey.

No. 99. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Nov. and Dec. 1905. Bill creamy yellow; feet dirty white; iris brown.

CACATUA GYMNOPSIS.

Cacatua gymnopsis Sclater; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 613 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 62 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 211.

One adult example of this species from Alexandra.

CACATUA ROSEICAPILLA.

Cacatua roseicapilla Vieill.; Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xx. p. 132 (1899: N.W. Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 617 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 212.

No. 15. Adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill bluish, white at the tip; feet black; iris red.

CALOPSITTACUS NOVE-HOLLANDIÆ.

Calopsittacus novæ hollandiæ (Gm.); Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xx. p. 135 (1891: N.W. Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 621 (1901).

Calopsitta novæ hollandiæ Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 212.

No. 36. ♀ imm. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill bluish grey; feet black.

a, b. Adult. Alexandra.

No. 36. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 2, 1905. Bill purple; feet black; iris brown.

MELOPSITTACUS UNDULATUS.

Melopsittacus undulatus (Shaw & Nodd.) ; Salvad. Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xx. p. 594 (1891) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 656 (1901) ; Hall, Emu, ii. p. 62 ; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 214.

Five adult examples from Alexandra.

ÆGOTHELES NOVÆ-HOLLANDIÆ.

Ægotheles leucogaster Gould, P. Z. S. 1844, p. 106 (Port Essington).

Ægotheles novæ hollandiæ (Lath.) ; Hartert, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xvi. p. 651 (1892) ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 542 (1901).

Ægotheles novæ hollandiæ (? *leucogaster*) Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 216.

a, b. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra Station, July 1905. Bill black ; feet yellowish brown ; iris clear brown.

One of the two skins is interesting from the fact that the plumage shews the rufous phase. The head, back, and wings are washed with rusty brown instead of being grey, as in the normal bird. The white of the under parts is also tinged with fulvous. The tail is barred with unusually narrow lines, the ground-colour being rufous brown.

One of the labels bears the note that "these birds make their nests in hollow trees," and shews that they breed in the vicinity of Alexandra.

HALCYON PYRRHOPYGIUS.

Halcyon pyrrhopygia Gould, P. Z. S. 1840, p. 113 (interior of New South Wales) ; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 215.

Halcyon pyrrhopygius Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 557 (1901).

One specimen from Alexandra.

MEROPS ORNATUS.

Merops ornatus Lath. ; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 545 (1901) ; Hall, Emu, ii. p. 51 (Fitzroy River) ; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 215 (Brock's Creek).

a, b. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 15, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris dark red.

c. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 1, 1905.

These birds did not appear until far on in October. Contents of stomach, large flies.

CUCULUS VARIEGATUS.

Cuculus variegatus Vieill.; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 217.

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 7, 1905. Bill black; feet light brown; iris brown. "Whorolo." Feeds on caterpillars.

CHALCOCOCCYX PLAGOSUS.

Chalcococcyx plagosus Shelley, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xix. p. 297 (1891); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 582 (1901).

No. 103. ♂ juv. Alexandra, Dec. 25, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown. Contents of stomach, insects.

SCYTHROPS NOVÆ-HOLLANDIÆ.

Scythrops novæ hollandiæ Lath.; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. ii. p. 588 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 219 (Fitzroy River).

No. 107. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Jan. 21, 1906. Bill dark blue to cream-coloured; feet pale grey; iris reddish brown.

MICRÆCA PALLIDA.

Micræca pallida De Vis, Proc. R. Soc. Queensland, i. p. 159 (1884).

a. ♀ adult. Alexandra, April 1905.

No. 39. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Iris brown; feet and bill black.

The measurements of these two specimens slightly exceed those given by North in his description of this small representative form of *M. fascians*.

The food consists of insects. This species catches flies on the wing.

PETRÆCA GOODENOVII.

Petræca goodenovii (Vig. & Horsf.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit.

Mus. iv. p. 171 (1879); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 143 (1901).

No. 44. Imm. Alexandra, April 1905. Bill and feet black.

No. 25. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

a. ♀ adult. Alexandra, July 29, 1905. Bill blackish brown; feet black; iris dark brown.

These do not differ much from typical examples, but are, if anything, paler on the back; a fact specially noticeable in specimen No. 25, ♀, which is probably an immature bird, as there is practically no red on the forehead.

This district seems to be the northern limit of the species in South Australia. Campbell gives its distribution as South Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South and Western Australia. However, it is reputed to have occurred as far north as the neighbourhood of the Fitzroy River (N.W. Australia).

MELANODRYAS PICATA.

Petræca picata (Gould); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 174 (1879); Hall, Emu, i. p. 92 (Fitzroy River).

Melanodryas bicolor picata Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 146 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 220.

No. 24. a, b. Adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

No. 34. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905.

a. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 1905.

Both the males agree fairly well with those in the British Museum, but the females are very much greyer and shew the tendency—apparent throughout the greater part of the collection—towards the formation of a paler race.

SMICRORNIS FLAVESCENS.

Smicrornis flavescens Gould, P. Z. S. 1842, p. 134 (Port Essington); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 210 (1879: Gilbert River); Hall, Emu, i. p. 105 (Fitzroy River); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 154 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 220.

a. ♀ adult. Alexandra, April 1905. Bill greyish brown; feet pale brown; iris yellow.

b. Adult. Alexandra.

In both specimens the backs are of a lighter shade and of a more yellowish hue than in those in the National Collection; they are also considerably brighter on the under surface of the body, that part being bright canary-yellow instead of sulphur-yellow.

Having such a limited series for comparison (there are only five examples in the British Museum), I do not think it justifiable to separate these birds from Gould's *Smicromis flavescens*, but the difference is very marked and worthy of attention.

RHIPIDURA TRICOLOR.

Rhipidura tricolor (Vicill.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 339 (1879); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 116 (1901).

Rhipidura tricolor motacilloides Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 221 (Flora Valley; Soda Springs; Eureka; South Alligator River).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 5, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

RHIPIDURA ALBISCAPA.

Rhipidura albiscapa Gould, P. Z. S. 1840, p. 113 (Tasmania and Southern coast of South Australia); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 310 (1879); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 108 (1901).

a. Adult. Alexandra.

This example is noticeably paler and greyer than those labelled *R. albiscapa* in the British Museum. Unfortunately the head has been accidentally severed from the body at a point where the black band ought to be shown on the lower throat, so my specimen is rather difficult to determine with certainty; it may possibly belong to the closely allied species *R. preissi* Cabanis.

SISURA NANA.

Seisura nana Gould, Ann. & Mag. (4) vi. p. 224 (1870 :

Northern Australia); Hall, Emu, i. p. 92 (Fitzroy River); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 126 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 223.

No. 31. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill purplish black; feet black; iris brown.

No. 31. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 31, 1905.

In both examples the breast is strongly washed with buff.

GRAUCALUS MELANOPS.

Graucalus melanops (Lath.): Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 30 (1879); Hall, Emu, i. p. 106 (Fitzroy River); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 96 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 224.

No. 53. [♀] adult. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill and feet black; iris pale yellow.

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 8, 1905. "Cogow."

b. ♂ adult. „ Dec. 7, 1905. Iris brown.

LALAGE TRICOLOR.

Lalage tricolor (Swains.): Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 93 (1879: North-west Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 103 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 225 (Condon Road; Brock's Creek, Northern Territory; South Alligator River).

No. 14. ♀ adult. Alexandra, August 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

No. 69. a, b, c. ♂; d. ♀ adult. Alexandra, September and December 1905.

POMATORHINUS RUBECULA.

Pomatorhinus rubeculus Gould, P. Z. S. 1839, p. 144 (North-west coast of Australia); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vii. p. 421 (1883: Victoria River, N.W. Australia; Port Essington); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 274 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 225 (Coongan River, N.W. Australia; Eureka; South Alligator River).

a, b, c. ♀ adult. Alexandra, July 1905. Bill and feet black; iris pale brown.

CINCLORHAMPHUS RUFESCENS.

Cinclorhamphus rufescens (Vig. & Horsf.); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 276 (1901); Hall, Emu, i. p. 109 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 225 (Behn River, E. Kimberley; Nullagine Road; Glencoe Station, Northern Territory; Argyle Station, E. Kimberley; Ord River, W. Australia).

No. 30. ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill dark brown; feet pale brown; iris brown.

No. 106. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Jan. 2, 20, 1906. Bill and feet dark brown; iris hazel.

This species flies singing from tree to tree like a Tree-Pipit.

On the label, dated Jan. 20th, 1906, Mr. Stalker remarks that he found a "nest in the bottom of a grass tuft."

CINCLORHAMPHUS CRURALIS.

Cinclorhamphus cruralis (Vig. & Horsf.); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 275 (1901); Hall, Emu, i. p. 109 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 225 (Hall's Creek Road).

No. 40. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905.

EPHTHIANURA TRICOLOR.

Ephthianura tricolor Gould; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vii. p. 667 (1883: N.W. Australia and Cape York); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 284 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 52 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 227 (Soda Spring, Kimberley).

a. ♀ adult. Alexandra, July 11, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris dull pale yellow.

b. Imm. Alexandra.

c, d. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 17, 1905. Iris white.

EPHTHIANURA AURIFRONS.

Ephthianura aurifrons Gould, P. Z. S. 1837, p. 148 (New South Wales); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 285 (1901) (N.W. Australia).

a, b. ♂; c, d. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill black to grey; feet black; iris bright copper.

This species appears to be rare in the North and in N.W. Australia.

Although these skins have a bleached appearance and are pale in coloration, the difference is not sufficiently pronounced to warrant their separation as a subspecies. They merely represent a pale form of the typical *E. aurifrons*.

CISTICOLA EXILIS.

Cisticola exilis (Vig. & Horsf.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. vii. p. 269 (1883); Hartert, Nov. Zool. vii. p. 227 (Ord River Station; Derby; South Alligator River; Eureka).

a. ♀ ad. Alexandra, July 24, 1905. Bill pale brown; feet pale yellowish brown; iris dull yellow.

The example from Alexandra varies so markedly from any in the large series of *C. exilis* at the British Museum that it is almost worthy of separation as a subspecies; had I more than one skin at my disposal I would unhesitatingly give this bird a new name, for it appears to me to be a very distinct geographical race. It differs from *C. exilis* in being much paler in plumage throughout; the head and mantle are very light greyish buff, streaked with dusky brown, this pale coloration being especially noticeable on the scapulars and wing-coverts, which have a very hoary appearance; the nape and rump are faintly washed with tawny. In the typical *C. exilis* all these parts are much darker and browner. The under parts are white and only tinged with buff on the flanks.

Mr. North mentions (Nests & Eggs Austr. B. p. 258) having examined a similarly light-plumaged example procured at Derby, N.W. Australia; he may possibly refer to the male of my pale race: he describes it as follows:—"has the head and under surface almost white, the former being slightly washed with golden buff, which is more pronounced on the forehead; the upper surface, wings, and tail are correspondingly paler than the typical examples of *C. exilis*, and only the feathers on the upper portion of the back have brown centres: wing 1·9 inches."

The same author states that he has never met with this

species very far inland, its occurrence in the Alexandra district, two hundred miles from the coast, is therefore interesting.

MALURUS ASSIMILIS.

Malurus assimilis North, Victorian Naturalist, xviii. p. 29 (1901).

No. 32. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill golden brown; feet black; iris brown.

No. 77. *a, b.* ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 12, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

No. 32. *c.* ♂ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 20, 1905.

Generally found in the dense lignum around the edges of water-holes.

MALURUS DORSALIS.

Malurus dorsalis (Lewin); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 179 (1901); Hall, Emu, i. p. 89 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 223 (Derby; Brock's Creek; Mount Anderson; Eureka).

a. ♂ imm. Alexandra, Dec. 12, 1905. Bill dark brown; feet light brown; iris brown.

An immature male, just changing into full adult plumage.

ARTAMUS MINOR.

Artamus minor Vieill.; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 474 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 59 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 240 (Nellie Creek; Eureka; Hall's Creek).

No. 76. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Oct. 16, 1905. Bill blue, darker at the tip; feet black; iris brown.

a, b. ♂ ♀ adult et imm. Alexandra, Jan. 1906. Bill reddish brown, tip blue; feet black; iris brown.

In both the adult examples the brown of the head and mantle is less intense than that of the typical bird, and these parts have a faded appearance and a more bistre hue. The under parts are also many shades paler and are brighter and more russet in colour. The only specimen in the British Museum approaching those from Alexandra is from North-western Australia.

ARTAMUS GRACILIS.

Artamus gracilis Ingram, Bull. B. O. C. xvi. p. 115 (July 10, 1906).

Similar to *A. personatus*, but much more ashy in its general colour, the rump and upper tail-coverts being of a purer grey than the back and scapulars, which are almost uniform in colour with the head, and not dusky as in *A. personatus*. Total length 7·3 inches, culmen ·8, wing 4·7, tail 3·3, tarsus ·8.

a, b. Adult. Alexandra.

No. 108. c, d. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Jan. 16, 1906. Bill blue at the base, black at the tip; feet dark blue; iris brown.

The nest is placed in the fork of a branch; it is composed of grass and roots and is generally well concealed.

An adult male marked c more nearly approaches the typical *Artamus personatus* than the specimens sent with the first part of the collection, from which I described *A. gracilis*. However, in the main, it differs noticeably from any in the series at the British Museum, being lighter and of a more vinaceous-pink on the under parts, and I think that I am still justified in separating this form as a distinct species.

ARTAMUS FLORENCIÆ.

Artamus florenciæ Ingram, Bull. B. O. C. xvi. p. 115 (July 10, 1906).

Similar to *A. melanops*, but with the black under tail-coverts much more broadly tipped with white. General colour uniformly paler and more ashy than in *A. melanops*, in which species the back is browner. The under surface is also conspicuously paler, being of a clear pearl-grey instead of drab. Total length 7·3 inches, culmen ·8, wing 4·8, tail 3, tarsus ·85.

a. ♀ adult. Alexandra, April 1905. Bill black at the tip, pale blue at the base; feet black; iris blue.

b. ♀ adult. Alexandra, July 1905. Iris pale blue, shading into white.

c. Adult. Alexandra.

ARTAMUS PHÆUS.

Artamus phæus Ingram, Bull. B. O. C. xvi. p. 115 (July 10, 1906).

Similar to *A. superciliosus*, but the maroon of the under parts is much duller in colour and of a vinaceous tint, instead of the rich chestnut of the above-mentioned bird. The under tail-coverts are also less bright and of a lighter shade. In the female the pale coloration of the under parts is especially noticeable. Total length 7·2 inches, culmen ·8, wing 4·8, tail 3·3, tarsus ·8.

No. 28. *a, b.* ♂; *c.* ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill bluish, paler towards the base; feet black.

ARTAMUS PARVIROSTRIS.

Artamus leucorhynchus parvirostris Hartert, Nov. Zool. vi. p. 424 (1899: Cape York).

No. 85. ♀ adult. Alexandra Spring, Oct. 30, 1905. Bill blue; feet blue; iris blue.

GRALLINA PICATA.

Grallina picata (Lath.); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 87 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 53 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 227 (Nullagine; Hall's Creek Road; Eureka; Alligator River; Mary River).

No. 37. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill pale yellow; feet black.

a. Adult. Alexandra.

b. ♂ adult. Alexandra, Dec. 10, 1905. Bill pale yellow, culminal ridge black; iris brown.

CRATICUS PICATUS.

Cracticus picatus Gould, P. Z. S. 1848, p. 40 (Northern Australia).

Cracticus nigrogularis picatus Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 302 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 229 Brock's Creek, Northern Territory; South Alligator River; Eureka; Nellie Creek).

No. 23. ♀ imm. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill bluish green at the base, black at the tip; feet black; iris brown.

No. 38. ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill pale blue at the base, black at the tip; feet black; iris brown.

OREOICA CRISTATA.

Oreoica cristata (Lewin); Gadow, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. viii. p. 174 (1883); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 310 (1901).

a, b. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra Station, July 1905. The bill of the female is black and that of the male dark brown; feet black; iris orange.

Both examples are paler in general coloration than any in the series in the British Museum.

This bird has great ventriloquial powers, except in the last note of its call.

PACHYCEPHALA FALCATA.

Pachycephala falcata Gould, P. Z. S. 1842, p. 134.

Pachycephala rufiventris falcata Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 230 (Derby; Eureka; Elvira River; South Alligator River).

No. 29. *a.* ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill dark brown; feet black; iris brown.

No. 70. *b.* ♂ adult. Alexandra, Sept. 1905.

„ *c.* ♂ imm. „ Oct. 31, 1905.

„ *d.* ♂ adult. „ Dec. 19, 1905.

„ *e.* ♀ adult. „ Jan. 7, 1906.

The specimen *b* is probably a very old female and, in the total absence of a black crescent surrounding the white throat, closely resembles the adult male. This example is almost free from striations, there being only a few narrow streaks on the white of the throat; the breast, abdomen, and flanks are tawny, very nearly approaching the colour in the pale examples of the male. The fact that this specimen was procured in the spring precludes the possibility of it being an immature male.

The other four skins agree fairly well with the series in the National Collection.

SITTELLA LEUCOPTERA.

Sittella leucoptera Gould, P. Z. S. 1839, p. 144 (north-west coast of Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 343 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 53 (Fitzroy River).

Neositta leucoptera Hellmayr, J. f. O. 1901, p. 187; Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 231 (Meda Station, Kimberley; Derby; Eureka, Northern Territory; South Alligator River).

a, b. Adult. Alexandra.

CLIMACTERIS MELANURA.

Climacteris melanura Gould, P. Z. S. 1842, p. 138 (north-west coast of Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 329 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 232 (Liveringa, Derby; South Alligator River; Eureka, Northern Territory).

No. 35. a, b. ♀ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

This is one of the few species represented in the present collection that displays no inclination towards the formation of a pale desert-race; in fact the two skins from Alexandra are, if anything, darker and of a blacker brown than any which I have examined. Mr. Stalker found this bird feeding on small black ants.

DICÆUM HIRUNDINACEUM.

Dicæum hirundinaceum (Shaw & Nodder); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 437 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 52 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 236 (Nullagine River; Ord River).

a. Adult. Alexandra.

b. ♂ juv. Alexandra, Oct. 21, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris brown.

PTILOTIS FORRESTI.

Ptilotis forresti Ingram, Bull. B. O. C. xvi. p. 116 (July 10, 1906).

Similar to *Ptilotis sonora*, but paler on the back and under surface, especially on the rump, which is of a light brown

colour. The rump is noticeably lighter than the rest of the back, which is not the case in the typical *P. sonora*. Owing to the faintness of the striations on the breast and flanks, the under parts are not so dusky; the abdomen and under tail-coverts are unmarked, being of a dirty white colour, washed with isabelline. Total length about 7 inches, culmen .8, wing 3.6, tail 3.7, tarsus 1.

In the large series of *P. sonora* at the British Museum there is a single skin from the late Mr. Gould's collection agreeing fairly well with the two birds from Alexandra. The label unfortunately gives no locality other than "Australia"; it bears the MS. note "light variety," shewing that Mr. Gould did not consider the specimen as typical.

a, b, c. Adult. Alexandra.

PTILOTIS KEARTLANDI.

Ptilotis keartlandi North, Rep. Horn Scient. Exped. p. 94, pl. 6 (1896); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 402 (1901); Hall, Emu, i. p. 98 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 233 (Marble Bar; Carbarana Pool, Nullagine Road; Taylor's Creek, Nullagine, N.W. Australia).

No. 45. ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905. Bill black; feet pale brown; iris pale yellow.

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, July 1905.

b. ♀ adult. Alexandra, July 1905. Bill black; feet dark brown; iris pale yellow.

MELITHREPTUS LÆTIOR.

Melithreptus lætior (Gould); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 368 (1901); Hall, Emu, i. p. 101 (Fitzroy River).

No. 33. ♂ adult. Alexandra, April 1905. Bill black; feet pale brown; iris brown.

No. 33. ♂ adult. Alexandra, May 1905.

a, b, c, d. Adult. Alexandra.

The measurements of one of the skins (no. 33) slightly exceeds those of the others; the bird is also larger than any of the examples in the National Collection. The food consists of insects.

ACANTHOCHÆRA RUFIGULARIS.

Acanthogenys rufigularis Gould, P. Z. S. 1837, p. 153 (New South Wales).

Entomophila rufigularis Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 378 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 102 (1902: Fitzroy River).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra Spring, Oct. 30. Bill and feet black.

I can find no record of this Honey-eater having occurred in the Northern Territory.

Campbell gives the geographical distribution of this bird as being S. Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South, West, and North-west Australia. Hall records it from the Fitzroy River ('Emu,' i. p. 102).

PHILEMON ARGENTICEPS.

Philemon argenticeps (Gould); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 434 (1901); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 232 (Victoria River; Pine Creek; South Alligator River; Eureka; Brook's Creek).

No. 86. ♀ adult. Alexandra, Nov. 2, 1905. Bill and feet black; iris light blue.

MIRAFRA RUFESCENS.

Mirafra rufescens Ingram, Bull. B. O. C. xvi. p. 116 (July 10, 1906).

Resembles *M. woodwardi* in the fulvescent tone of its plumage, but is everywhere paler. The brown centres to the feathers of the back are less conspicuous than in typical examples of that species, while the striations on the chest are almost obsolete. As this pale form is distinctly rufous in the coloration of its plumage, it is obviously separable from Mr. Hall's desert-race, a greyish form that he has raised to subspecific rank under the name of *M. horsfieldi pallidus* ('Emu,' vol. iii. p. 232).

a. ♂ adult. Alexandra, April 1905. Bill brown; feet pale brown; iris brown.

b. ♀ adult. Alexandra.

The food consists of insects and seeds.

EMBLEMA PICTA.

Emblema picta Gould; Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 481 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 55 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 239 (Coongan River).

No. 59. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, July 1905. Bill black above and at the base of the lower mandible, the remainder of the lower mandible and the tip of the upper red; feet brown; iris dark red.

TÆNIOPYGIA CASTANOTIS.

Tæniopygia castanotis (Gould); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiii. p. 311 (1890: Fitzroy River); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 55 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 239 (Condon Road).

a. ♂; b, c. ♀ adult. Alexandra, April 1905. Bill brick-red; feet reddish brown; iris white.

STICTOPTERA BICHENOVII.

Stictoptera bichenovii (Vig. & Horsf.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiii. p. 313 (1890: N.W. Australia); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 485 (1901).

a. Adult. Alexandra.

STICTOPTERA ANNULOSA.

Stictoptera annulosa (Gould); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiii. p. 314 (1890: Victoria River; Fitzroy River; Port Essington); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 486 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 57 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 239 (Crawford Springs, Northern Territory).

No. 54. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, June 1905. Bill black; feet bluish grey; iris dark red.

MUNIA PECTORALIS.

Munia pectoralis (Gould); Campbell, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. i. p. 489 (1901); Hall, Emu, ii. p. 57 (Fitzroy River); Hartert, Nov. Zool. xii. p. 238 (Eureka).

No. 104. ♂ ♀ adult. Alexandra, Jan. 1906. Bill blue-grey; feet light brown; iris brown.

The crop contained flying ants.